

ART. VII.—*Contributions to the Flora of Australia,*
*No. 19.*¹

BY

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(With Plates V. and VI.).

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ABUTILON INDICUM, Sweet. "Indian Lantern Flower." (Malvaceae).

Coode Island, Victoria, J. R. Tovey, March 23rd, 1912.

A native of the tropical regions, also found in South Africa. An exotic not yet sufficiently established to be considered naturalised in this State.

ACAENA MONTANA, Hook. f. (ACAENA TASMANICA, Bitter, in *Bibliotheca botanica*, Heft 74, (Stuttgart)). (Rosaceae).

(Determined by Dr. Bitter, Bremen, September, 1911).

Alpine regions of Mount Field East, Tasmania, F. Mueller, Jan., 1869.

ACAENA SANGUISORBAE, Vahl. FORMA. (Rosaceae).

(Determined by Dr. Bitter, Bremen, September, 1911).

Summit of Mt. Dayman, New Guinea, 9000 ft., W. E. Armit, 1894.

AIZOON RIGIDUM, L. var. ANGUSTIFOLIUM, Sond. "Rigid Aizoon."
(Ficoideae).

Coode Island, Victoria, J. R. Tovey, December, 1908, and March 23rd, 1912.

Indigenous to South Africa. An exotic not yet sufficiently established to be considered naturalised in this State.

ALBIZZIA AMOENISSIMA, F. v. M., *Fragin.* viii., p. 165. (Leguminosae).

This plant was given in the first Census, from New South Wales, Queensland and Victoria, omitted from the second Census (presumably inadvertently), and restored in the manuscript. The only specimens in the Herbarium are the original types from the north-east boundary of New South Wales. There is no Victorian specimen or record of this plant, which must hence be deleted from the Victorian Flora.

AMBROSIA ARTEMISIFOLIA, L. "Roman Wormwood." (Compositae).

Wimmera, Victoria, M. Guerin, 1890; Tabilk, Victoria, Mrs. James, 1905; Shepparton, Victoria, J. C. Walker, October, 1911; Coode Island, J. R. Tovey, March 23rd, 1912.

This Composite, a native of North America, recorded as a garden escape in the "Weeds, Poison Plants and Naturalised Aliens of Victoria," p. 94 (1909), has now evidently permanently established itself as a naturalised alien in Victoria.

ANDROPOGON GRYLLUS, L. (Gramineae).

North Australia, Dr. Gilruth, 1911.

ANDROPOGON SERICEUS, R.Br. (Gramineae).

North Australia, Dr. Gilruth, 1911.

ANTHISTIRIA AVENACEA, F. v. M. (Gramineae).

Roper Plains, North Australia, Dr. Gilruth, 1911.

"Locally known as Blue Grass. Generally eaten last by stock."

ANTHISTIRIA MEMBRANACEA, Lindl. (Gramineae).

North Australia, Dr. Gilruth, 1911.

"Stock fairly fond of this grass."

ANTHYLLIS VULNERARIA, L. "Kidney Vetch." (Leguminosae).

Lilydale district, Victoria, Mr. Kerr, January, 1912.

This herbaceous perennial plant has now established itself in the Lilydale district, and may be considered naturalised. It is a native of Europe, Asia and Africa, and is a useful pasture plant for dry pastures.

ARISTIDA CALYCINA, R.Br. (Gramineae).

North Australia, Dr. Gilruth, 1911.

ASTREBLA TRITICOIDES, F. v. M., var. LAPPACEA, Benth. (Gramineae).

Bull Oak Creek, North Australia, Dr. Gilruth, 1911.

ATRIPLEX STIPITATUM, Benth. "Kidney Saltbush." (Chenopodiaceae).

Werribee Gorge, Victoria, P. R. H. St. John, January 29th, 1912.

A new locality for this plant, only previously recorded in Victoria from the north-west.

BARTSIA TRIXAGO, L. "Trixago Bartsia." (Scrophulariaceae).

Near Newstead, County of Talbot, Victoria, F. M. Reader, Oct., 1909; Boorhaman, North-east Victoria, per J. Callander, October, 1911.

This naturalised alien is now recorded from four widely separated localities, and is evidently spreading. Like "The Common Bartsia" (*Bartsia latifolia*, Sibth. and Sm.), it is probably parasitic on the roots of grasses.

BRASSICA ADPRESSA, Boiss. "Hoary Brassica." (Cruciferae).

A native of Europe, now naturalised as an alien round about Melbourne and in the Sale district. It has not previously been recorded. It has no pasture or economic value, and is usually a weed of waste places. If neglected it is capable of becoming a troublesome weed in cultivated ground and even in pastures, owing to its free powers of seeding. Sheep appear to eat the young shoots, especially when pasture is scarce.

CALYCOTOME SPINOSA, Link. "Spiny Broom." (Leguminosae).

Growing along roads at Bolwarrah, near Ballarat, C. French, junr., July 27th, 1909, spreading on the top of the cliffs at Mornington, C. French, junr., March 3rd, 1912.

This plant, a native of Spain, can now be regarded as a permanently established naturalised alien. It was possibly originally planted in a hedge, thence running wild. It has no known economic value beyond its value as a hedge plant, and is quite capable of becoming a troublesome weed if neglected.

CNICUS BENEDICTUS, L. (*CARBENIA BENEDICTA*, Adans.) "Blessed Thistle." (Compositae).

North Ovens Shire, Victoria, Feb., 1905; North Wangaratta, C. T. Kidd, Oct., 1911; Springhurst, J. E. Aldridge, Nov., 1911.

This hardy annual, a native of the Mediterranean regions, was recorded in the "Weeds, Poison Plants and Naturalised Aliens of Victoria," p. 94 (1909), as a garden escape, but it has now apparently established itself and may be considered naturalised. According to

the 1905/6 Botanical Congress, *Carbenia benedicta*, Adans., becomes *Cnicus benedictus*, L., as the only representative of the genus *Cnicus*, and all other species described under *Cnicus* must be transferred to either *Carduus* or *Cirsium*.

CRYPTANDRA UNCINATA (F. v. M.), Gruning. (Rhamnaceae).

This plant was originally described by Mueller as *Beyeria viscosa*, var. *uncinata* (Euphorbiaceae), and by Baillon as *Beyeria* (?) *uncinata*. Benthams states "male flowers unknown." Gruning, to whom specimens were sent in connection with the preparation of Engler's Pflanzenreich, finds five stamens to be present, and transfers the species as above. The original label by Mueller is "*Beyera viscosa*, Miq., var. *uncinata*." A second label, apparently by Baillon, reads, "*Beyeria* (?) *uncinata*. In Adansonia VI. (Spec. certe ab. *B. viscosa* distincta)," and it was published by Baillon as *Beyeria* (?) *uncinata*.

DIANTHUS ARMERIA, L. "Deptford Pink." (Caryophyllaceae).

Upper Gundowring, Victoria, A. B. Braine, December, 1911.

This European plant has only previously been recorded in Victoria from Darebin Creek (see Benth. Fl. Aust. vol. i., p. 156 (1863)), and was placed in the list of naturalised aliens in the "Weeds and Poison Plants of Victoria," p. 76 (1909), as probably only a garden escape. It appears, however, to be now permanently naturalised.

ERAGROSTIS TENELLA, Beauv. (Gramineae).

Water-course bottom, Bull Oak Creek, Northern Territory Expedition, Dr. Gilruth, 1911.

ERIOCHLOA PUNCTATA, Hamilt. (Gramineae).

Bull Oak Creek, North Australia, Dr. Gilruth, 1911.

"Fairly common, eaten readily by stock."

GRINDELIA SQUARROSA, Dunal. "Tar-weed." (Compositae).

Kerang, Victoria, February, 1905; Tatura, W. F. Mahon, Feb., 1909; Shire of Kerang, H. Butson Hooper, April, 1912.

This plant is a native of North-west America. It has no economic value, but appears to be establishing itself slowly as a naturalised alien in this State. Though first recorded in the Kerang shire in 1905, it is still scarce there, and is found mainly on close, retentive or clayey soils.

HERMANNIA VELUTINA, DC. "Velvet Hermannia." (Sterculiaceae).

Coode Island, Victoria, J. R. Tovey, March 23rd, 1912.

Indigenous to South Africa. An exotic not yet sufficiently established to be considered naturalised in this State.

HUXLEYA, Ewart, new genus. Verbenaceae. Tribe 2, Viticeae.

Sub-tribe 3, Oxereae.

Ovary distinctly 2 or 4 lobed. Calyx 5 cleft. Plants erect, leaves undivided.

Flowers rather large, solitary, without bracteoles in the axils of leaves. Calyx deeply cleft into 5 segments. Corolla tube narrow and elongated, about the same width throughout, limb spreading into 5 segments. Stamens 4, protruding beyond the tube of the corolla. Anthers 2-celled, dehiscing longitudinally. Ovary 2-celled, each cell containing one anatropous ovule attached to the side near the base. style long, stigma slightly bifid.

This genus differs from *Faradaya*, the only other Australian genus of this sub-order, in having the calyx 5-lobed (instead of 2), 5-lobed corolla (instead of 4), equal stamens (not didynamous), ovary 2-lobed (not 4), in being an upright herb (not a woody climber), in the flowers solitary (instead of in terminal panicles).

These distinctions are almost sufficient to make an additional sub-tribe.

HUXLEYA LINIFOLIA, Ewart and Rees. (Verbenaceae).

Flowers on long pedicels without bracteoles in the axils of opposite leaves (usually 2) near the apex of the stem. Calyx about 5 lines long, tubular below, spreading above into 5 narrow acuminate segments, sparsely beset with hairs on the outer surface.

Corolla tube about 1 inch in length. Segments about half the length of the tube, with tufts of hair at the base, somewhat obovate, regular or nearly so. Stamens exerted, filaments attached to corolla tube below the rim, protruding about $1\frac{1}{2}$ lines beyond it. Anthers somewhat sagittate with a bluntly pointed tip. Ovary dark, almost black in dried specimen. Style almost 1 inch in length, slightly bifid. Stigma reaching to the opening of the corolla tube. No fruit present on the specimen.

Locality—Port Darwin, North Australia, N. Holtze, 1892.

Herbaceous plant about 1 foot in height. Stem 4-angled, channelled, and devoid of hairs. Leaves $1\frac{1}{2}$ -3 inches in length, long, linear, acuminate, opposite or sometimes alternate towards base of stems, under surface sparsely pitted with minute glands.

LASIOSPERMUM RADIATUM, Trevir. (Compositae).

Highways in Tasmania, R. A. Black, April, 1912.

A native of South Africa which has reached Tasmania either as a garden escape or with imported seed. It is occasionally grown in Botanic Gardens, but is of no economic importance.

MERCURIALIS ANNUA, L. "Annual Dog's Mercury." (Euphorbiaceae).

Coode Island, Victoria, J. R. Tovey, March 23rd, 1912.

A native of Europe and Africa which may be classed as an exotic not yet sufficiently established to be considered naturalised. The plant contains a substance which turns the leaves, when drying, to the colour of indigo blue, and also gives a bluish tinge to the milk of cows eating it.

OLEANDRA NERIFORMIS, Cav. (Filices).

Recorded as new to Australia in Proc. Linnean Soc. N.S. Wales, vol. xxxiv., p. 368. Specimens of this plant from the Sydney Botanic Gardens did not agree with those in the National Herbarium, and Dr. Christensen suggests that it may be a subglabrous form of *O. Cumingii*, J. Sm., which is a native of China, India, Assam, Malay, Luzon and Tahiti, and has the same shape of lamina.

Baker says (Synopsis Filicum, p. 303), "Probably this (*O. Cumingii*) occurs in tropical Australia, as there are specimens among Leichhardt's plants."

PANICUM CRUS GALLI, L. "Barnyard Grass." (Gramineae).

North Australia, Dr. Gilruth, 1911.

"Fairly common, though much scarcer than Mitchell Grass. Stock eat it readily."

PASPALUM SCROBICULATUM, L. (Gramineae).

North Australia, Dr. Gilruth, 1911.

PETROPHILA INCURVATA, W.V.F., Journal of Botany, vol. 50, 1912, p. 22. (Proteaceae).

Mt. Churchman, West Australia, Young, 1876 (!); Watheroo, West Australia, Max Koch, 1905, No. 1522.

This plant was originally described by Baron Mueller as *P. semifurcata*, var. *planifolia*, in Fragmenta, vol. x., p. 47, 1876, owing to the resemblance of the cones to this species. Owing to the absence of flowers the stigmas were not seen, but the later specimens show them to be distinctly fusiform, so that apparently the new species formed from this variety is based upon valid characters apart from the foliage.

PHEBALIUM APRICUS (Diels). (Rutaceae).

This species was described by Diels as *Eriostemon apricus*, in Engler Bot. Jahrb., band xxxv., p. 321 (1905). This plant also has glabrous or slightly glandular filaments, and must therefore be placed under *Phebalium* as in the next species.

PHEBALIUM DESERTI (Pritzel). (Rutaceae).

This plant was described as a new species under *Eriostemon* (*Phebalium*) *intermedius*, Ewart, in Proc. of the Roy. Soc. of Vict., vol. xix., p. 40 (1906), but was subsequently found to be the same as the new species described by Pritzel as *Eriostemon deserti*, in Engler's Bot. Jahrb., band. xxxv., p. 321 (1905).

Since, however, the plant has glabrous filaments, and since it appears best, if only for practical convenience, to adopt the generic subdivision of *Eriostemon* as given in Bentham's Fl. Aust., vol. 1, and also in Engler's Pflanzenfamilien, the plant must be placed in *Phebalium*, as above.

PRASOPHYLLUM CILIATUM, Ewart and Rees, new species. (Orchidaceae).

Sect. 3. Genoplesium. Labellum ciliate or fringed.

Green Valley, County of Talbot, Victoria, F. M. Reader, June 19th, 1910.

Stem about 5 inches long, bract small and less than half an inch below the inflorescence. Spike about $\frac{1}{2}$ inch long. Lateral sepals united at extreme base, slightly gibbous, narrow lanceolate, acuminate, margins curved inwards, $2\frac{1}{2}$ -3 lines long, ovate acuminate hooded. Lateral petals slightly shorter than dorsal, narrow, lanceolate, ending in long fine point with dark stripe down the centre. Labellum attached by a claw to the base of the column, about $1\frac{1}{2}$ lines long, long and narrow, in a blunt tip, channelled down centre, margin fringed with short cilia, inner plate has the margins free and curving slightly, extending to the end of labellum. Column about $1\frac{1}{4}$ lines long, about as long below anther as anther. Lateral appendages about the same length as anther, adnate to base of column, divided into 2 short lobes, inner shortly acuminate outer somewhat falcate, with outer margin fringed with short cilia. Stigma comparatively large, rostellum small and extending but little above the base of the anther. Ovary about $1\frac{1}{2}$ lines long, oval and swollen looking in the fully-opened flowers.

Appears nearest to *P. Woollsi*, from which it differs in having larger flowers, no cilia on lateral petals, and in the form of the labellum.

PRASOPHYLLUM DESPECTANS, Hook, f., var. INTERMEDIA, Ewart and Rees.
(Orchidaceae).

Eucalyptus forest, Green Valley, County of Talbot, Victoria, F. M. Reader, May 4th, 1910.

In spite of slight difference in the shape and curvation of the lateral appendages (see Proc. Roy. Soc. Vict., vol. 23, Pt. 1), this specimen seems best referable to the above variety.

In view of the amount of variation which seems to be shown in the lateral appendages of the column, it is questionable whether too much attention is not attached to them in classification.

PRASOPHYLLUM SUTTONI, Rogers and Rees. (Orchidaceae).

Buffalo Plateau, Victoria, Dr. Sutton, December, 1902.

Plant about 10 inches, fistula about 3 inches below spike, leaf about 2 inches. Spike consists of about 9 flowers, from which the colours have been discharged in the process of drying, although the faint tints on all the sepals and the dark tints on the column suggest that these have been purple. The petals look as though they had been white, with a coloured dark central streak.

Flowers very shortly stalked and subtended by a small semi-ovate bract about as broad as long. Lateral sepals about 4 lines, quite free, not gibbous, rather narrow lanceolate, dark stripe down middle, convex below, channelled on top (i.e., labellar side). Dorsal sepals about 3 lines, rather narrowly hooded, pointed, not recurved. Lateral petals broader and longer than lateral sepals, $4\frac{1}{2}$ lines, rather broadly linear with triangular tips, membranous, with dark stripe down middle. Lateral index 112. Labellum on short claw, obovate recurved at an angle of about 60 deg. at the middle, proximal part measuring about 2 lines from claw to bend, not gibbous, with entire margins, distal part measuring about 2 lines from bend to tip, latter rather broadly blunt and rounded, margins and surface almost entirely membranous, slightly crenulated; callous portion rather narrow, channelled, increasing in thickness towards the bend and ending slightly beyond the latter in 2 raised lines. Anther not pointed, hidden behind rostellum and much shorter than latter. Appendages of column large, reaching quite to level of rostellum, falcate, with small basal ovate lobe, adnate only to base of column. Rostellum voluminous, purple, much higher than anther, triangular. Stigmatic surface large. Ovary short (about $2\frac{1}{2}$ lines), turgid, obovate, on very short pedicel.

The species appears to be perhaps most closely allied to *P. fuscum*, though also related to other species. The examination and description of the plant was carried out jointly by Dr. Rogers and Miss Rees.

SARGA STIPOIDEA, Ewart and White, Proc. Roy. Soc. Viet., vol. xxiii., 1911, p. 297. = ANDROPOGON SARGUS, Ewart.

The genus "*Sarga*," though originally placed in a widely different position, would have been practically a revival of the sub-genus *Chrysopogon*, which it is now generally agreed can best be referred to *Andropogon*. The description of the plant already given stands without modification.

SESBANIA ACULEATA, Pers. (Leguminosae).

Northern Territory Expedition, North Australia, Dr. Gilruth, 1911.

SILENE CONICA, L. "Striated Catchfly." (Caryophyllaceae).

Bridgewater, South-west Victoria, per J. L. Wyatt, Nov., 1911.

This plant is a native of Europe and Asia. It usually grows near the sea, and has apparently been established for some time in this district of Victoria, though not previously recorded. It is not likely to become a serious weed, though of no economic value.

STERA (Ewart, Contrib. to Flora of Aust., No. 18, in Proc. Roy. Soc. of Viet., vol. 24, p. 263, 1911) = CRATYSTYLIS (Spencer le Moore, in Journal of Botany, vol. 43, p. 138). (Compositae).

This genus and its 3 species are made from *Pluchea conocephala*, F. v. M., and its two varieties, *microphylla* and *subspinescens*. I was unaware at the time that Spencer le Moore had already made this change, but the fact that the same decision has been arrived at from two sources quite independently, is a sufficient proof, if any were needed, of the necessity of raising this new genus on the basis of "*Pluchea conocephala*, F. v. M." Spencer le Moore's generic name being the earlier one has, of course, priority.

THRYPTOMENE RACEMULOSA, Turcz. (Myrtaceae).

Coolgardie, West Australia, Mrs. Markes, 1895.

TRICHODESMA LATISEPALUM, F. v. M. (TRICHODESMA ZEYLANICUM, R. Br., var. LATISEPALUM, F. v. M.) (Boraginaceae).

Bull Oak Creek, Northern Territory, Dr. Gilruth, 1911.

UROSPERMUM DALECHAMPI, F. W. Schmidt. (Compositae).

Domain, near Botanic Gardens, Hobart, Tasmania, R. Black, Feb., 1912.

A native of Southern Europe, now introduced into Tasmania, either by the agency of impure seed or as a garden escape, but not yet sufficiently established to be considered naturalised.

EXPLANATION OF PLATES.

PLATE V.

Husleya linitolia, Ewart and Rees.

- Fig. a.—Portion of plant.
 b.—Single flower with calyx and corolla tubes split longitudinally and opened back.
 c.—Single anther, back view.
 d.—Single anther, front view.
 e.—Ovary.
 f.—Ovary opened, showing ovule in one cell.

PLATE VI.

Prasophyllum, sp.

- Fig. a.—*Prasophyllum* Suttoni.
 b.—Column of same, side view.
 c.—Column of same, front view.
 d.—Lateral petal of *P. ciliatum*.
 e.—Labellum of same, side view.
 f.—Labellum of same, flattened out.
 g.—Column of same, one appendage turned back.
 h.—Column of *P. despectans*, var. *intermedia*.